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The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 09

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 20, 2023

1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Local retailers hope back-to-school tax free weekend delivers big economic boost

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Alabama's annual Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday hits stores this weekend, and local retailers are hoping for one a great turnout, and on Monday of this week, Alabama Governor Kay Ivey encouraged Alabamians to begin preparing for the new school year by participating in the sales tax holiday.

This year's event will be Friday, July 21, through Sunday, July 23, and with certain items being exempt from the state sales tax, residents will have the opportunity to save money while gathering the supplies students need for the school year.

Items available for purchase during the weekend include traditional school supplies and computers, as well as school uniforms, gym suits and other types of clothing.

"With summer nearing its end, I know Alabama families are beginning to prepare for the quickly approaching school year," said Governor Ivey. "During this tax-free

holiday weekend, pencils, calculators, binders and other essential school supplies will be eligible for purchase without incurring sales tax. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this relief, so students, teachers and parents alike can be equipped for the school year."

Many of the state's counties and municipalities have chosen to join the state by removing their own local sales and use taxes from the same items during the same weekend. Locally, this includes Elba, Enterprise, New Brockton, and Coffee County.

Dinah Coppage owns the Kids ~ Teens ~ Moms Unlimited clothing store located at the Shoppes at Taylor Crossing in Elba, and she said the Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday is a major booster shot in the arm, so to speak, for small businesses like hers.

"I have been in retail for 34 years and owned by own business for 20 of those," Coppage said. "It [tax free weekend] is truly bigger than Black Friday, and the amount of revenue it brings

in is much needed for all businesses but especially your smaller retailers."

She added that she is very thankful the City of Elba continues to participate in this tax-free event each year because it gives the businesses such a big economic boost.

"It becomes a much-needed blessing to us little guys and girls," Coppage said. "I am very hopeful this weekend will be the biggest year ever. We are very prepared for a large turnout, and we have our store packed out with our biggest inventory ever!"

On top of a large inventory for customers to choose from while shopping, Coppage said Kids Unlimited with offer tons of special doorbuster items and store-wide savings throughout the weekend.

"I am just praying all things combined that we have a huge, monster turnout," Coppage said.

A list of items eligible for Alabama's Back-to-School Sales Tax Weekend can be viewed in a graphic on Page 3 of today's paper.



Dinah Coppage, owner of Kids~Teens~Moms Unlimited in Elba is shown prepping her store earlier this week ahead of this weekend's Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday. Coppage said this weekend has in the past provided a huge economic boost to small retail stores, like hers. She said she is hoping this year will be even bigger. Coppage's Elba store is one of several looking to benefit from the increased sales provided by tax free weekend.

Elba man arrested for conspiracy to commit a controlled substance crime

Officers with the Elba Police Department arrested one Tuesday, July 11, for conspiracy to commit a controlled substance crime.

According to Coffee County Jail records, Frederick Dean, age 31, of Elba was charged with the crime. He was booked into the county jail at 11:05 a.m. on July 11th.

As of press time this week, Dean remained in the county jail with a \$30,000 bond set for the charge.



Enterprise man faces multiple charges following July 15th standoff/manhunt

An Enterprise man kept Enterprise Police and other law enforcement busy last Friday, July 14, before he was eventually arrested by police.

It was reported that Enterprise Police went to a home in the 100 block of Boll Weevil Circle at 4:06 a.m. last Friday morning in a report of a disorderly person. Officials said police found two men fighting in front of a home, and one of the two men ran into



Shannon Scott Anthony faces multiple charges following his reported actions last Friday in Enterprise.

the house where he allegedly threatened officers and other victims with a gun.

Officials said they were able to get three occupants from the home while waiting on backup, but the suspect Shannon Scott Anthony, age 40, of Enterprise, barricaded himself inside the home. At 9:30 a.m., an entry team cleared the house and discovered that Anthony had fled.

This led to a multi-agency manhunt for the suspect. At approximately 12:30 p.m. Friday afternoon, Anthony was reported to have been located and hiding in an abandoned truck behind the Mitchell Dodge dealership on Boll Weevil Circle. He was armed and had barricaded himself in the vehicle, officials said.

After several hours of

negotiations, the incident ended peacefully when Anthony surrendered to authorities. He was arrested and booked into the Coffee County Jail just after 8:30 p.m. Friday night.

On Saturday morning, July 15, Coffee County District Judge Josh Wilson held an initial appearance hearing via Zoom with Anthony. Twelfth Judicial Circuit District Attorney James Tarbox appeared on behalf of the State of Alabama to make arguments for why he fled

Anthony's bond amounts should exceed the standard amounts set out in the Alabama Rules of Criminal Procedure.

"Given Anthony's criminal history, the fact that he recently posted bond on multiple charges in Houston County, and the events all day Friday, which include pointing a firearm at offi-

cers responding to the initial call, all lead the state to take the position that the defendant is a threat to public safety," Tarbox said.

Following argument, Judge Wilson set Anthony's bond at \$250,000 for a burglary - second degree charge, \$70,000 for a certain persons forbidden to possess a firearm charge, and \$15,000 each on two counts of menacing. His bond amount for all charges totaled \$350,000.

"The state appreciates all of our law enforcement partners and their actions during Friday's events," Tarbox said. "The collaboration between and assistance provided by numerous agencies led to the peaceful outcome of a situation that could have unfortunately been deadly."

On Monday, July 17, representatives from the District Attorney's office met with members of the Enterprise Police Department Criminal Investigative Division to discuss the facts and evidence obtained during last Friday events.

"After reviewing certain pieces of footage and other elements of this investigation, it was determined by law enforcement that there was probable cause to upgrade the main charge against defendant Anthony to Burglary - first degree, a Class A felony under the laws of the State of Alabama," Tarbox said. "The District Attorney's Office will seek to hold the defendant without bond pursuant to Code of Alabama 15-13-3 (Aniah's Law)."

Anthony remained in the Coffee County Jail as of press time this week. No bond had been set on the burglary - first degree charge.

Marley Acres offers farm adventures in Elba

by Mikailie Caulder,
Auburn University Living
Democracy Program student

Nestled discretely within the charming town of Elba lies a hidden gem, an extraordinary farm full of life. The captivating sanctuary serves as a haven for both children and families, offering a multitude of unforgettable experiences.

Home to many species of animals, children and adults alike find delight and comfort in the company of the gentle creatures. The remarkable location allows Marley Acres to be concealed within city limits yet enchantingly tucked away from plain sight.

The farm, owned by Carrie and Jamie Whitworth, started as a heartfelt tribute to their faithful German Shepherd, Marley. The property has since blossomed into a beloved home for all species of animals.

What began with the purchase of three animals, Shaggy, Sallie Mae, and Teddy, was just the beginning of an incredible journey. Marley Acres, now home to 50 animals, is a bustling hub of life.

Since it's humble beginning, Marley Acres has evolved and expanded.

"We keep adding pastures and clearing more land," Whitworth explained.

Their dedication is evident as they continue expanding and developing the property to accommodate their growing animal family.

Each day brings a range of responsibilities that need to be completed. Feeding



Mikailie Caulder and Bradley Chapman recently assisted Jamie Whitworth with the sheep shearing process at Marley Acres in Elba. Caulder said her on Marley Acres was nothing short of wonderful. From participating in sheep shearing to administering vaccinations, each experience she said each experience taught a valuable lesson.

and watering the animals, maintaining the barn, and taking care of the stalls are the essential tasks. The Whitworths emphasize the importance of ensuring the health and well-being of each individual animal.

Beyond the day-to-day operations, Marley Acres has become a place of community engagement and celebration. Opening its gates to the public this year, the farm began a new chapter.

It first functioned as an educational space open for preschoolers introducing their young minds to the wonders of the farm. Marley Acres provides an interactive venue for events and parties.

The farm grants guests the

"opportunity to see animals you wouldn't see everyday" Whitworth explains.

Now, the Whitworths have added "farm days." These are full day tours of the farm with up-close animal encounters. With this experience those who attend will have the opportunity to learn everything about farm life.

The Elba Public Library recognized the unique educational opportunities offered at Marley Acres. With its diverse array of animals, the farm was an ideal venue for the summer reading kickoff event.

"Animals are always a hit," Elba Public Library di-

See SHEEP, Page 6

Area Happenings

The Wiregrass Wolverines will host the Georgia Crushers in football action Saturday, July 22, at Miller Memorial Stadium in Elba, at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 per adult and \$5 for a child with a paying adult. Concessions are available at the games.

Elba City Council will meet Monday, July 24, at 5:30 p.m. at Elba City Hall.

The Elba Lions Club will meet Tuesday, July 25, at 6 p.m., at the Elba Senior Citizens Center. All members are asked to attend and hear a special guest speaker.

The Elba Chamber of Commerce/Elba Main Street in conjunction with the Elba Historic Preservation Committee invites all to enjoy an evening with The Dothan Moonlighters in Elba. The concert will be Thursday, Aug. 10, beginning at 6 p.m. in the historic Elba Theatre, located at 231 Court Ave., Elba. This is a fund raiser for an Elba Museum. Tickets are \$15 each and include hors d'oeuvres. Tickets can be purchased at LillieAnne's, My Happy Place, and Son Exposure. For more information, call the Elba Chamber of Commerce office at (334) 897-3125.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Mistakes are a part of being human. Appreciate your mistakes for what they are: precious life lessons that can only be learned the hard way. Unless it's a fatal mistake, which, at least, others can learn from." — Al Franken

Former President Donald Trump hit a bad shot on the golf course! That was the headlines on the internet several days ago... he actually 'shanked' a golf ball. Now that is important news. Not being a golfer, we can only guess there is not a single golf player who can honestly say that has never happened to them personally. The 'news' article goes on to imply that Trump is prone to exaggerate his golfing abilities... again, we seriously doubt he is in the minority in that category either. But in the end does any of that relate to running our country?

The former president is still getting more free press than all the other hopeful candidates combined. Ironically the majority of this press coverage is about things that in years past would have tanked the candidate's campaign. I recall a guy by the name of Hart that was one of the leading presidential candidates before a picture surfaced of him on a boat with a woman that was not his wife. He tanked immediately, but Trump seems to thrive on whatever is printed about him, including all the lawsuits.

Regardless of who wins the presidency this time or the next time, we frown at the thought of giving them more power over various government agencies. The hiring and firing power is extremely controlling and the temptation to hire and fire for self-preservation is just too dangerous to be entrusted to any one person, even a certain trusty newspaper publisher.

We have seen at least one of the proposed plans for electoral district realignment following the Supreme Court ruling that existing districts were wrong. We don't have any numbers, but the pictures show District 2 (SE Alabama) losing most of Covington County and some other bits and pieces of the state while picking up others. This first plan being considered by the Alabama Legislature doesn't add, nor subtract, a district, just seems to confuse the voter with the shuffling. However this time it is the Supreme Court that is the group causing the confusion!

Sunday morning at breakfast-time we remembered having a couple of bananas that needed eating before they got 'too ripe'. Well we peeled one of them, reassuring ourselves that back where bananas are grown they laugh at us Americans for eating them 'too green'. Therefore we convinced ourselves it was alright to eat one of the rather soft bananas. That is until we took a bite of it! One bite was enough to justify trashing both of those overripe (maybe rotten) bananas. Next time we will keep them out on the counter where they will not be forgotten!

Drivers who drive through the Mulberry Heights area will be happy to know that the City of Elba has gotten some grant money and will be resurfacing a number of streets in that area. Of course those who like a challenge will miss the game of dodging the pot holes without wrecking their vehicle!

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USPS 171-080

is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper,
417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323
Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323

Postmaster: Send Address Changes To:
The Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 677, Elba, AL 36323-0677

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

Alabama's historic grocery tax cut shows we must always attempt to accomplish what others say can't be done. . . .

Editorial by Alabama's
Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth

Alabamians may have felt their wallets bulge a bit last month when the Legislature approved our bill that slices the sales tax on groceries in half and implements the single largest tax cut in state history.

Alabama was one of only three states that taxed groceries at the full rate - South Dakota and Mississippi are the others - and we were one of only 13 states in the nation that levied any tax on food.

But beginning on September 1, 2023, Alabama's 4% state sales tax on groceries will be cut to 3%, and another percent will be automatically deducted when revenues in the Education Trust Fund reach a trigger point that is set in the bill, which is expected to occur as soon as the next fiscal year.

Safety provisions have been put in place to ensure that education dollars are protected as the \$300 million tax cut goes into effect, and we remain dedicated to fully funding our K-12 public schools, community colleges, and public universities at all times.

The bill uses the same definition of groceries as the federal food stamp program, known in D.C. nomenclature as SNAP, which means all groceries will be covered except for pre-prepared, hot food from grocery store delis.

A close in the legislation blocks cities and counties from raising their sales taxes on groceries so Alabamians can be assured of the intended savings, but it does allow officials in city halls and county complexes to follow the Legislature's lead and cut the local food tax, if they choose.

For several decades,

elected officials and advocacy groups across Alabama have attempted to reduce or remove the grocery tax, but their plans always required other taxes to be raised in order to offset the revenue losses. Many of those suggested tax increases targeted middle-class families, which always doomed the efforts from the start, especially among hardcore Republicans like me.

As lieutenant governor, though, I noticed that the conservative budgeting practices implemented since Republicans gained control of the Legislature in 2010 have provided Alabama's coffers with a sizable financial cushion that did not exist before.

Our state's business sector - ranging from the largest employers to the smallest, mom-and-pop operations - remains healthy, and our continuing success in attracting both new and expanding industries is resulting in unprecedented revenues flowing to the treasury.

Putting pencil to paper and running the numbers soon revealed to me that Alabama could afford to cut the grocery tax without needing to penalize any groups or individuals by raising their existing levies.

I met with countless experts, advisors, and associations, including the grocers who collect the tax at the point of sale, to rally them to take immediate action and worked with Sen. Andrew Jones (R - Centre), House Education Budget Chair Danny Garrett (R - Trussville), and Senate Education Budget Chair Arthur Orr (R - Decatur) to create a workable plan.

Once lawmakers were briefed on our proposal, support for it spread like wildfire. All 35 members of the Alabama Senate agreed to serve as sponsors along with 100 of the 105 members of the House. I am told by many longtime State House observers that no major bill of such significance has ever achieved the same unanimous and bipartisan support.

Our dinner table tax cut will save the average Alabama family the cost of two weeks of groceries, and that financial relief is much needed in the current economic environment because the liberal fiscal policies being pushed and promoted by Joe Biden and congressional Democrats have caused inflation to skyrocket.

See TAX, Page 3

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, July 11, 2023, and Monday, July 17, 2023, conducted the following activity:

Tuesday, July 11 - Animal complaint reported at 827 Roosevelt Dr (12:37 p.m.); Civil complaint reported at 702 Newton St (1:55 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 610 N Troy Hwy (2:40 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 121 Cordelia Ave N (6:31 p.m.). Two traffic stops resulted in one written warning, and one verbal warning.

Wednesday, July 12 - Suspicious vehicle reported at 409 Adkinson Ave (4:42 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at S Hwy 189/ Siminol Cir (1:38 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 227 Dr Roberts Dr (3:31 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 2322 Hickman Ave (3:51 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 405 Davis St W (5:00 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1007 Guyton St (5:31 p.m.); Stolen vehicle reported on Hwy 87 (10:26 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

Thursday, July 13 - Suspicious circumstances reported at 1207 Claxton Ave N (2:38 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1110 Caroline St (10:22 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 892 Cedar Lane Dr (5:07 p.m.); Report of shots fired on Wayne St (11:18 p.m.). Seven traffic stops resulted in three written warnings, two verbal warnings, and two citations.

Friday, July 14 - Suspicious circumstances reported at 822 Roosevelt Dr (12:30 a.m.); Burglary

reported at 731 West St (7:25 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at Hwy 203/ Reese Ave - w/impound (7:40 a.m.); Theft of services reported at 1460 Smith Ave (10:26 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1218 Ann St (11:18 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 2250 Taylor Mill Rd (2:17 p.m.); Drug activity reported at 335 Brunson Circle (4:15 p.m.); Traffic accident reported on Hwy 84 E (5:11 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Putnam St - w/verbal warning (6:43 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in one citation, three verbal warnings, and one written warning.

Saturday, July 15 - Suspicious circumstances reported at 992 Hwy 203 Suite 1 (3:35 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 14334 Hwy 87 (11:07 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 1460 Smith Ave (8:38 p.m.); High-speed pursuit reported at 132 County Rd. 213, Jack - w/arrest (10:04 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 120 N Factory Ave (10:18 p.m.); Reckless driver reported at Hwy 84 and Davis St - w/advice given (10:56 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a citation.

Sunday, July 16 - Traffic accident reported at 638 N Claxton Ave (10:14 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 601 Kendrick St - w/arrest (10:24 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1085 Neil Grantham Dr (9:31 p.m.).

Monday, July 17 - Suspicious vehicle reported at the dog park (2:00 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 404 Reese Ave (10:53 p.m.).

Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder

Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

The Yonder Gang headed out to a community event recently, and Cuzin Lou Lou decided to take Little Bean along to enjoy the outing with the family. Of course, Sister immediately worried that it would be 'too hot' for Bean, but Lou Lou insisted she had a plan for that! Lou Lou long ago purchased a stroller for the spoiled monster. When the gang is on trips, Bean gets to ride safely in her stroller as they walk around places, and it also comes in handy when Lou Lou and Sister take walks. Bean thinks she must go on those walks with them, but she gets ready to 'relax' before the walks are over - thus, another need for the stroller.

In preparation for this particular outing, Sister wanted to know just how Lou Lou thought she had a plan for helping Bean in the heat. The answer was simple - ice packs!

"What?!!?" Sister was confused.

Lou Lou explained that she had taken some ice packs from the freezer (typically used in insulated bags, etc.) and placed them underneath the cushion in Bean's stroller. She had added a blanket for extra protection from the "cold" of the ice packs, to create a comfy, cool zone for Bean.

It was the perfect plan... at least that is what Lou Lou thought! Bean, on the other hand, had other ideas.

The gang arrived at said outing, and Bean immediately went into her stroller for the 'walk' to the event area. Once the gang picked their spot for the event, Lou Lou, Sister and Papa got their seats out and ready...it was at this point when Lou Lou realized things were not going to go as smoothly as she had planned!

There was noise and lots of people [which translated

to strangers for Little Bean] at the event, and she immediately became uneasy. She insisted on either sitting in Lou Lou or Sister lap, not stay in her nice cool zone, and this meant not only was Bean going to be extra hot but so was whomever she was sitting with at the moment.

Despite all of Lou Lou's good intentions and planning, this was going to be a disaster! However, there was an escape! Luckily, this event was being held in good 'ole hometown Yonder, which meant Lou Lou could return Bean to her favorite place - HOME!

Less than thirty minutes after arriving at the event, Lou Lou and Sister placed Little Bean back in her stroller and returned to the vehicle while Papa held their spots at the event. A few minutes later, the little monster was back home and in her happy place!

The only problem now was convincing Sister to not stay home too! The moment they got back home with Little Bean, Sister began contemplating staying home as well... she said it was just too hot outside. She and Little Bean are a lot alike when it comes to being a tad "spoiled"!

Lou Lou wasn't having it! "You'll be fine! You're going back with me!" she told Sister.

After a few more grumblings, Sister finally agreed to return to the event, and she managed to enjoy herself despite having to deal with a little perspiration!

Lesson learned on this trip...noisy, crowded places just aren't for Little Bean! She'd rather just stay home!! Sister would too, but Lou Lou did not give her a choice on this one ;)

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling.

Business of the Month:

The Rabbit Hole

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2023 Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday

Alabama will hold its 18th annual back-to-school sales tax holiday, beginning Friday, July 21 at 12:01 a.m. and ending Sunday, July 23 at midnight. This event gives shoppers the opportunity to purchase certain school supplies, computers, and clothing free of state sales tax. Local sales tax may still apply. For more information, contact the Sales and Use Tax Division at 334-242- 1490 or 866-576-6531.

Clothing		
Eligible		
\$100 or less, per article of clothing Includes all human wearing apparel suitable for general use. This is not an all-inclusive list.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">BeltsBootsCapsCoatsDiapersDressesGlovesGym SuitsHats	<ul style="list-style-type: none">HosieryJacketsJeansNecktiesPajamasPantsRaincoatsRobesSandals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ScaryesSchool UniformsShirtsShoesShortsSocksSneakersUnderwear
Noneligible		
Clothing accessories, protective equipment, and sports or recreational equipment		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Belt buckles (sold separately)BriefcasesCosmeticsCostume masks (sold separately)Hair Notions (barrettes, hair bows, etc.)HandbagsHandkerchiefsJewelryPatches and emblems (sold separately)Sewing equipment & supplies (pins, patterns, scissors, tape measures, etc.)Sewing materials (thread, fabric, buttons, zippers, etc.)Sunglasses, eyeglasses, contacts (prescription or nonprescription)UmbrellasWalletsWatchesWigs and hair pieces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Breathing masksClean room apparel and equipmentEar & hearing protectorsFace shieldsHard hatsHelmetsPaint or dust respiratorsProtective glovesSafety glasses and gogglesSafety beltsTool beltsWelder gloves and masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ballet or tap shoesBand instrumentsCleated or spiked athletic shoesGloves (baseball, bowling, boxing, hockey, golf, etc.)GogglesHand and elbow guardsLife preserves and vestsMouth guardsRoller and ice skatesShin guardsShoulder padsSki bootsWadersWetsuits and fins

Computers, computer software, and school computer supplies	
Eligible	
A single purchase with a sales price of \$750 or less.	
Computers - For a purchase to be eligible, a computer may include a laptop, desktop, or tower computer system which consists of a central processing unit (CPU), and devices such as a display monitor, keyboard, mouse, and speakers sold as a computer package. Computer parts and devices not sold as part of a package with the CPU, will not qualify for the exemption.	
Computer software	
School computer supplies - An item commonly used by a student in a course of study in which a computer is used. All-inclusive list includes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Computer storage media; diskettes, compact disksHandheld electronic schedulers, except devices that are cellular phonesPersonal digital assistants, except devices that are cellular phonesComputer printersPrinter supplies for computers (printer paper, printer ink)	
Noneligible	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">FurnitureAny systems, devices, software, peripherals designed or intended primarily for recreational useVideo games of a non-educational nature	

School supplies, school art supplies, and school instructional material		
Eligible		
Sales price of \$50 or less, per item (noncommercial purchases) This is an all-inclusive list.		
School supplies		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">BindersBlackboard chalkBook bagsCalculatorsCellophane tapeCompassesComposition booksCrayonsErasersFolders (expandable, pocket, plastic, and manila)Glue, paste, and paste sticks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">HighlightersIndex cardsIndex card boxesLegal padsLunch boxesMarkersNotebooksProtractorsPaper (colored, construction, copy, graph, loose leaf ruled notebook, manila, and tracing papers and poster board)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pencil boxes and other school supply boxesPencil sharpenersPencilsPensRulersScissorsWriting tablets
School art supplies		School instructional material
This is an all-inclusive list.		(Written material commonly use in a course of study as a reference and to learn the subject being taught) This is an all-inclusive list.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clay and glazesPaints (acrylic, tempora, oil, and watercolors)Paintbrushes for artworkSketch and drawing pads		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reference maps and globesRequired textbooks on an official schoolbook list with a sales price of more than \$30 and less than \$50

Books	
Eligible	
Sales price of \$30 or less, per book (noncommercial purchases)	
Books The term book is defined as a set of printed sheets bound together and published in a volume with an ISBN number.	
Noneligible	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">MagazinesNewspapers and periodicalsAny other document printed or offered for sale in a non-bound form	



Local retailers, like Kids Unlimited and Riverwalk Outfitters hope the parking lot at the Shoppes at Taylor Crossing is full this weekend with shoppers eager to make purchases!

Obituaries

ROBERT LEE COOPER III

Mr. Robert Lee Cooper III, better known as Bob or Bobby, passed away in Birmingham, Ala.

After graduating from the University of Alabama in Birmingham, Bob spent many years in Mobile working as an electrical engineer. After retiring, he worked in commercial real estate in Mobile.

Due to health issues Bob moved to Birmingham to be near family.

Family and friends will gather Saturday, July 22, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to bury his ashes in the Cooper family plot in Evergreen Cemetery, Elba, Ala.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Louise Cooper, and his very special friend, Marie Stephenson.

He is survived by his sister: Susan Cooper Bernstein, brother-in-law: Philip Bernstein; niece: Emily Bernstein Tidwell (Barry); nephew: Brian Bernstein (Amy); along with great-nephews: Beck Bernstein, Miles Bernstein, and Brock Tidwell.

JAMES CARROLL "JIM" RHOADES

Mr. James Carroll "Jim" Rhoades, age 84, of the Rhoades Community, died Friday, July 14, 2023, at his home.

Jim was born in Coffee County, Ala., to his late parents, Clyde Whitman Rhoades and Odis Vardeman "O.V." He was a member of Alberton Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held Monday, July 17, 2023, from Wyatt Funeral Home Chapel, Opp, Ala., with burial following in Rhoades Cemetery. Rev. Harry Driggers officiated the service.

The James Rhoades Engineering Endowed Scholarship has been established in his honor. Donations may be made to The Wallace Community College Foundation, 1141

Wallace Drive, Dothan, AL 36303

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Larry Edward Rhoades.

Survivors include his wife of 29 years: Jimmie Weatherford Rhoades; son: Robert Michael Rhoades; daughter: Robyn Rhoades Wilborn (husband, Barney); stepson: Brett Davis (wife, Karen); stepdaughter: Terri Veneziano (husband, Giovanni); brother, Dwain Rhoades (wife, Debbie); sisters-in-law: Margaret Rhoades and Betty Bass; brothers-in-law, Dennis Weatherford (wife, Peggy), and Donnell Weatherford (wife, Susan); along with seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

RENA VAUGHAN DISPENNETTE

Mrs. Rena Vaughan Dispennette, age 74, of Sevierville, Tenn., died Monday, July 10, 2023.

Rena graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Montgomery, Ala. She married her high school sweetheart, Lonnie, and graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in medical technology. Rena dedicated a majority of her career to serve as a microbiologist in the mycology department at the State Health Laboratory's Montgomery Central Lab.

After retirement, Rena and Lonnie moved to the Great Smoky mountains in Wears Valley, Tenn.

Memorial services were held Saturday, July 15, 2023, from Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, Elba, Ala., with Rev. Kit Johnson officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Friends of the

Smokies in support of the park she loved or to the Respite Ministry at FUMC in Montgomery, AL [Their caregiver support meant so much to Rena's family during her battle with Alzheimer's].

Survivors include her husband: Lonnie Henry Dispennette Jr.; daughter: Dr. Lauri (Toby) Taunton, Spring City, Tenn.; sister: Marcy (Charles) Jones, Prattville, Ala.; brother: Emile (Willette) Vaughan, Pike Road, Ala.; grandson: Jacob Muñoz, and granddaughter: Ana Muñoz, both of Scottsdale.

LINDA SUE SMITH

Mrs. Linda Sue Smith, age 76, of Kinston, Ala., died Monday, July 17, 2023, at her home.

In accordance with her wishes, no formal services will be held at this time. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba is serving the Smith family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Olwin Johnson Davis; brothers, Tommy Davis, and Ray Davis; and sister, Joyce Hinson.

Survivors include her husband: Paul Smith, son: Mark Smith, daughters: Wendy (Donald Jr.) Jackson, and Lisa (Shayne) Arnett, all of Kinston; sisters: Sylvia Coplen, Crestview, Fla., and Wanda (Wayne) Mitchell, Floral, Ala.; grandson: Brady Smith, Kinston; granddaughters: Cassidy Odom, and Cherry Jackson, both of Kinston, and Katlyn Salter, and Ramsi Anderson, both of Opp, Ala.; plus great-granddaughter, Ellis Odom, Kinston.

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TAX (Continued from Page TWO)

Between 2022 and 2023, the cost of food rose by an average of 7.7% according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Eggs alone cost a third more than they did last year, bread and cereal are up by 25%, and meat, fish, and chicken are substantially higher.

Our success in cutting the grocery tax demonstrates what can be accomplished if we stay true to our conservative beliefs, build consensus among lawmakers, and have the courage to attempt to accomplish what many say can't be done.

But the job is only half-complete, and work still lies ahead as I am determined and fully committed to abolishing the grocery tax altogether.

I ask all of you to join me in thanking each member of the legislature for supporting this historic tax cut. It was a true bipartisan effort. Together, we will continue making an already great state even better.

STOP

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1-800-458-7214

aps@dhr.alabama.gov

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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322 Buford Street Elba, AL 36323

www.WildflowersElba.com

Ask Heath

Heath Wyrosdick, Funeral Director/Embalmer

Hayes Funeral Home

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Coping with Grief When You Lose a Spouse

How can you overcome the problems you face after your spouse has died? First, you must recognize that grief is necessary, and it is something you must work through. There is no shortcut.

Vent Your Feelings. It is important that you allow yourself to vent your feelings. Take time to cry. Don't be afraid to share your tears with other mourners. Talk openly with family members and friends. Don't try to "protect" your children or other family members by hiding your sadness. Express your anger if you are feeling it. This is the time to lean on your friends. They may feel awkward for a while because they don't know how to talk to you about your loss. You can help them help you by simply telling them what you need.

Lighten Your Schedule. If you normally have a pressing schedule, try to lighten it. Remember, grief is mentally taxing. You don't need the added strain of too much to do. Set aside some quiet times just for yourself, so you can think about your spouse's death and put things in perspective.

Remember that There is No Timetable. Healing doesn't happen overnight. It happens gradually, and there is not a normal timetable for grieving. For some people it may take weeks or months to start to feel better. For others, it may take years. It's also important to remember that even if you have accepted your loss, that doesn't mean that you have forgotten the person.

What if you can't seem to handle your grief? It's important to understand there is no timetable for grief, so it is difficult to say when a person needs professional help. If you are worried you are not coping well with your grief, you might consider talking to a counselor.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesth@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Paul Jackson, Pastor

Covenant Community Church

I think I'll be just fine!

Some years ago, a preacher friend of mine named John (not his real name) called and asked if we could meet. He said he wanted to talk to me about something very important.

I said, "Sure. What do you have in mind about a time and place?"

He told me the day and time and we met at the agreed-upon place. It was good to see him again. It had been a while.

After some chit-chat, my friend told me the purpose of our meeting. He said he had some concerns that he wanted to talk about.

"What are your concerns?" I asked a little nervously, unsure of where this conversation was going.

"Paul," he said, "you know there is only one church, right? Do you think you should be associating with the Church like you are?"

He said a few more things as I listened politely.

Then eventually it was my turn to talk.

"Well, John, thank you for your concern for me. I do appreciate that. And I want you to know that I agree with you about the one church. The Bible clearly teaches that there is but one church or 'body of Christ' of which all Christians are members [for example, see Col. 1:24; 3:15]. It's just that I don't believe that the church you are a part of is the sole expression of that one church."

You see, John believed that he and those who belong to that denomination are the only true Christians there are. They have a lock on the truth. They have it nailed down. They understand it all, without error. John seemed rather sure of his role as arbiter of faith for anyone who would listen.

I told John that his sectarian attitude seemed arrogant to me. "What human understands the Bible perfectly?" I asked.

We continued with this back-and-forth conversation for a while longer until I had to leave for a meeting.

I ended our conversation by thanking John once more for his concern and admitting that I am sure that I was wrong about many things and had much to learn. But I told him that there was one thing that I haven't changed my mind about, one thing that I believe more strongly today than ever, one thing that I am absolutely, unequivocally sure of.

"Do you know what that is, John?" I asked.

Before he could answer I continued: "It's Jesus Christ. I believe in him as my Lord and Savior. I love him. No, I adore him. And my trust in him to save me is stronger and deeper today than when I began my faith journey many years ago," I assured him. "And even if I am wrong about any number of fine points of doctrine, I know I am not wrong about Jesus. And so, I think I'll be just fine."

We are not saved from sin by our flawless grasp of the Bible. We are not saved by being "right" in all our viewpoints on religious matters. We all have much to learn still. That's why I'm so grateful that God saves us by his grace through our simple trusting faith in Jesus (see Ephesians 2:8-9).

Jesus asked Peter one critical question at a pivotal moment in Peter's journey with him: "Who do you say I am?" (Matthew 16:15).

See Pastor's Corner, Page 6

Newbia Baptist Church offering 'Free Community Meal' Saturday, July 22nd

Newbia Baptist Church, located at 3819 County Rd. 330, Elba, will host a Free Community Meal this Saturday, July 22, at 12 noon.

There will be BBQ pork and chicken plates with all the trimmings. Also, there will be water games for children [adult supervision required - bring extra clothes].

All are invited to come and dine with the members of Newbia Baptist Church in the air conditioning. Bring the entire family!

Zoar Cemetery Association annual meeting set for Saturday, July 22nd

The Zoar Cemetery Association has been meeting on the Saturday before the fourth Sunday each July since 1988.

The annual business meeting for Zoar Cemetery will be held Saturday, July 22, in the Morrow Hall building, located on County Rd. 331, at 10 a.m. Continued personal and financial support is needed.

All with loved ones buried in Zoar Cemetery are encouraged to attend the annual meeting.

Greater New Zion MB Church plans Back-to-School Bash for Aug. 5th

Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church is sponsoring a "Back to School Bash" on Saturday, Aug. 5, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

There will be bouncy ice cream truck, music, basketball and more!

The church is located at 720 East Davis Street, Elba. Phone 334 897-5545, or e-mail <greaternewzionelba@gmail.com> for more information.

Heart to Heart with Pastor Paul

Hello Friend...

Almost weekly I open the Clipper and read about people, some I know, who have passed away - all ages, too - young to old! It hit me especially hard this past week.

What I'm most concerned about is the salvation of people and if they are ready to meet God. At times, almost everyone I talk to says they are a Christian. I hope so. But sadly, what I know from my experience is that a lot of folks may know about Jesus and God but don't put much effort into living as a Christian believer.

And so I wonder if they are ready for eternity. This has been so heavy on me this week.

Friend, where are you spiritually? Are you ready to die? I'm 66 and ask myself that question a lot!

I'm writing to plead with you to make sure you and God are good. Are you a true believer? If so, then follow Jesus with all your heart. He loves you so much!

But if not a Christ-follower, what are you waiting for? Daylight is burning. Night is coming. God is real. Death is certain. And eternity awaits us all!

If you want to talk, just call me and we will set a time to get together (334-845-2561).

I care and am just trying to talk to as many people as I can about the most important decision anyone will ever make.

If this appeal offends you in some way, please forgive me. It's just that I'm compelled to try and help as many as I can to know and love God more.

Again, if I can be of help to you spiritually, call me today. Pastor Paul Jackson

Covenant Community Church

Round and About With Eria's Daughter

334-282-2200



Scripture: Guidance for the Young [Proverbs 3: 1-35]

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Nicole Duncan, Afreenee Kelley, Rita Gray, Connie Bones, Christina Timberlake, Reginald/Priscilla Sanders, Deloris F. Williams, Ziyah Kelley, Bernice Culver

August & September Birthdays/Anniversaries

Rev. Fred and Annie Flowers 8/25 W.A.

TameQuest Jones 8/25

Allan J. Belcher 8/26

Lauren Rogers 8/28

Tony Ordon 8/29

Andy Hardwick 8/29

Clisbe Thomas 8/30

Lance Cross 8/30

Joyce Jones 8/31

Samantha Siler 9/1

Oneather K. Smedley 9/1

Wiley and Juanita Brooks 9/1, W.A.

Conflicting Identities

In September 2001, San Francisco police arrested a man for robbing eight banks and attempting to rob another. When taken into custody, the man admitted his crimes. He was an unlikely suspect, since in daily life he had a \$98,000 job as an air traffic controller. He was known to be very cool under the pressure of his job, a trait he exhibited during his short career as a bank robber. Described as friends as a nice, friendly person, he took his teenage sons and their friends camping and to ball games.

Investigation showed he was unable to make his salary stretch far enough to cover his expenses, which included large bills for alimony, child support, and school tuition. So, he apparently allowed another side of himself to grow alongside his law-abiding, family-man persona. The court ordered that he under-

go psychiatric evaluation to determine his sanity.

It could be argued that there must be something "insane" about a man who risked a good job and his reputation in everyday life to take up a second, risky and unlawful identity. James says we demonstrate a similar type of split in our persona when we let our tongues get out of control. When Christians bless God in worship and curse others elsewhere, it may not be a mark of insanity, but it certainly doesn't make sense. - G.R.B.

Question / Answer Section Q/A for the Week of 7-20-23

Q: With what did Satan smite Job?

A: Sore Boils [Job 2:7]

Q: According to Job, who was vexing his soul?

A: The Almighty [Job 27:2]

Q: What did Job ask God to help him know?

A: His sin [Job 13:23]

Q: What happens to the spirit of a person who dies?

A: It returns unto God [Ecclesiastes 12:7]

Questions for the Week of 7-27-23

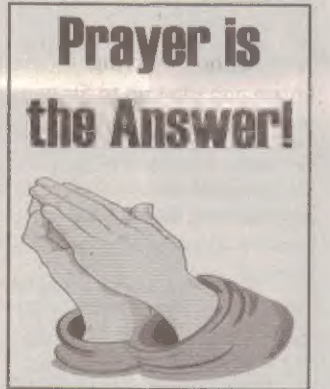
True or False

Q: The title of "Prophet of the Highest" was given to Zechariah's son, John.

Q: John the Baptist lived in Jerusalem until he began preaching.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Eria's Daughter, Sue



Church Directory



IN HIM WAS
LIFE AND
THE LIFE
WAS THE
LIGHT OF
MEN

**ABOUNDING GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Rockey Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

**ABUNDANT LIFE
CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.**
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**ALBERTON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class... 6:30 p.m.

**BETHANY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:30 p.m.

**BLUFF SPRINGS
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**BROOKLYN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.

**CHESTNUT GROVE
METHODIST CHURCH**
Remonia Smith, Pastor
Church Service... 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**CORNERSTONE BIBLE
CHURCH**
Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night... 7:00 p.m.

**COVENANT COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Paul Jackson, Pastor
Sunday Fellowship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week & meal... 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study & Prayer... 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**DAMASCUS BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**DORCAS BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

**EANON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Philip Box, Minister
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
David Noble, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:45 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
OF PROPHECY**
H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night... 6:00 p.m.
Thur. Night... 7:00 p.m.

**ELBA DELIVERANCE
TABERNACLE**
Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Kit Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**ELBA ZION BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**EVANGELIST TEMPLE
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**
Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet 7:30 p.m.

**FAITH CHAPEL
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Phillip Adecek, Pastor
Sunday Morning... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**1st ASSEMBLYS OF GOD -
KINSTON**
Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS
CHURCH**
Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**GODS POWER HOUSE
EVANGELISTIC CHURCH**
Overseer - Billy Berry
Sat. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 4:00 p.m.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP
John Curtis Isaacs, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**GREATER NEW ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Marvin Luckett Jr., Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

**HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC
CHURCH**
W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**HAM UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 8:45 a.m.

**HAW HILL ASSEMBLY
OF GOD**
Shirley Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH
Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**HOLY TEMPLE COGIC
Glenwood, AL**
Sunday Prayer... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service... 11:00 a.m.

INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Wesley D. Ard, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

INO BAPTIST CHURCH
Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School... 8:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Matthew Morris, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:15 p.m.

**KINSTON 1st BAPT
CHURCH**
Heath Fountain, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LIVING WORD CHURCH
Derrick Stinson, Pastor
Saturday Service... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Youth Service 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Service... 6:00 p.m.

**LIBERTY CHURCH OF
CHRIST**
Greg Hanchey, Minister
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

LOVE'S WAY CHURCH
Charles Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**MT. CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays

**MT. GILEAD BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Dewey Emfinger, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**MT. ZION BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Will Jordan, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

**MT. VERNON ASSEMBLY
OF GOD**
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.

**Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
NEW ABUNDANT LIFE DEL.**
Linda Williams, Pastor
Sunday... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Even... 7:30 p.m.

**NEW JERUSALEM
CHURCH OF GOD IN
CHRIST - ENTERPRISE**
W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Morning Worship... 9:00 a.m.
Evening Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening... 7:00 p.m.
Friday Evening... 7:00 p.m.

**NEW BROCKTON
METHODIST CHURCH**
Dr. Craig Bailey, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.

**NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Terry Godwin, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study... 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:00 p.m.

**NEW EBENEZER
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Randall Pearson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:00 p.m.

NEW GLORIOUS COGIC
James Starks Jr., Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Bib Stud Wed... 6:00 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Allen Dieas, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN ASSEMBLY
OF GOD CHURCH**
Brad Sasser, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HOPE BAPT
CHURCH**
Lanny Shepard, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW PHILADELPHIA
CHURCH OF GOD IN
CHRIST**
Lorearl Flowers, Minister
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**OAK GROVE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Julian Mitchell, Pastor
1st... 4th Sun. Morn.
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

**OLD TABERNACLE UNIT-
ED METHODIST CHURCH**
Lee Jones, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.

**PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF
GOD**
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

**PINEY GROVE ASSEM-
BLY OF GOD - SAMSON**
Terry McCrummen, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Worship... 7:00 p.m.

**PRaise & GLORY
WORSHIP CENTER**
Roy L. Turner, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11

SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our grandson Cannon will celebrate his first birthday in a couple of weeks and from the sounds of what his Mom is planning everyone will be in for a real treat. I tried to tell her that he won't even remember the party in a few months, but his Nanny reminded me that the party is for the parents and all the family, anyway. Oh well, as long as they save me a piece of cake I will be just fine.

For what it is worth....

*** *The first high school football games* of the season are just over a month away and it is fun listening to fans of the various teams talk about how good their teams are going to be. Here in Elba the talk is about a possible state championship, while over in New Brockton the fans just hope the Gamecocks will show improvement, up at Zion Chapel the Rebels fans are hoping for a winning season, down in Kinston the Bulldogs fans are convinced another banner season is just around the corner, and over at Brantley the Bulldogs fans are looking forward to a big season and a run toward a title. Yep, optimism is running wild for all the area fans and that is what makes high school sports so much fun to follow.

*** *This week wraps up the preseason look* at the schedules of the area high school football teams with a glimpse at the Zion Chapel Rebels and the Brantley Bulldogs.

The Rebels haven't hung up a region championship banner since the 1970's (1974 & 1979) and have struggled to only 17 winning seasons in 61 years. While they have been led by a total of five head coaches over the past ten years, the Rebels began to turn things around last season and are looking forward to even more success this season.

The Bulldogs have won four state championships and 32 region crowns during their 97 years on the gridiron, and boast 601 wins during their rich history. They have been led by a number of very successful head coaches, and have had only three head coaches over the last 23 seasons. The Bulldogs may have to reload this season after losing a bevy of talented seniors, but they will never have to rebuild thanks to the success of the program over the years and the belief that in Brantley all they do is win.

*** *Former Calhoun basketball standout JD Davidson* signed a two-way contract wo the Boston Celtics last week for the 2023-2024 NBA season and in doing so will be able to move between the Celtics NBA roster and G League roster without having to go through waivers. Two-way players can play up to 50 games with the NBA team during the season, and this will mark the second straight year the two-time 'Mr. Basketball' award winner drew the two-way label. While the contract is far from what many others make in the NBA, Davidson will still make \$559,782, which is half of the rookie minimum. In the Celtics summer league opener last week the 6'3" guard scored 14 points and handed out 11 assists. So, maybe before long the former Letohatchee star will make the really big bucks.

*** *In closing....* Way back in 1986 Crossville defeated Elba in the 3A state championship game, but in the upcoming 2023 high school football season the Lions will have to watch from the sidelines and cheer for the junior team as Crossville High School officials announced last week that the school doesn't have enough players to field a varsity team. While Elba has gone down from 3A to 1A since the state title game, Crossville has moved from 3A up to 5A, which makes last week's announcement even harder to figure out. The school officials blame such things as Covid and players leaving the school as some of the reasons for the decision, but one of the real reasons may be the fact they have posted back-to-back winless seasons. Hey, there are a lot of things for students to do now that don't include football, and many parents could care less if their children play sports. My guess is this will become more common in years to come as the society we live in continues to change.

Zion Chapel looks to continue rebuilding

The Zion Chapel Rebels will look to continue their rebuild this season on the football field and with four of their opening five games at the friendly confines of Green Memorial Stadium they will certainly have the chance to use the schedule to springboard to a winning season.

Zion Chapel has posted only two winning seasons over the past 17 years and over the last three years has posted only five wins, combined, and the Rebels have only two winning seasons since moving up to Class 2A in 2008.

Coach Cody Keene will be in his second season as the field general for the Rebels and last year led the team to a 3-7 record.

Following is a preview of this year's football schedule:

Aug. 25 Pike Liberal Arts

The Rebels will kick off the season at home with a first-ever clash against the Pike Liberal Arts Patriots. Pike Lib was a longtime powerhouse in the private school ranks, but struggled to a 3-6 record last season in its first year as a member of the AHSAA due to a schedule that included one trip to Mobile and three games in Florida.

Sept. 1 at, Goshen

The Rebels will hit the road in week action when they head to Goshen for a non-region battle against the Goshen Eagles. Zion Chapel has a 6-25 all-time record against the Eagles, has lost nine straight meetings, has posted only one win in its last 15 games and last season lost 46-21. Goshen posted a 6-4 record last season after struggling to a 1-18 record the previous two seasons.

Sept. 8 Wicksburg

The Rebels will enter the region wars in week three with a home game against the Wicksburg Panthers. Zion Chapel owns an 8-13 all-time record in the series and last season lost 42-12. Wicksburg posted a 6-6 record last season in its first year in the 2A ranks since 2013, and over the past four years has compiled a 22-21 record.

Sept. 15 Samson

The Rebels will remain at home in week four when they host the Samson Tigers, in a key region encounter. Zion Chapel has a 5-15 series record against the Tigers, but snapped a nine-game skid last season with a 19-6 win, its first over Samson since back in 1991. Samson slumped to a 1-9 record last season after posting 13 wins the previous two years.

Sept. 22 Ariton

The Rebels will lose out the homestand with a week five region clash with the Ariton Purple Cats. Zion Chapel has a 12-42 series record against the 'Cats, has lost six straight since a 31-30 win in 2014, and last season dropped a 35-0 decision. Ariton posted its second straight 10-win season a year ago and has won nine or more games five of the last six years.

Sept. 29 at, Pleasant Home

The Rebels will step out of region play and get back on the road when they travel to Pleasant Home to tangle with the Pleasant Home Eagles. Zion Chapel boasts a 12-5 series advantage, has won six straight contests and last season rolled to a 28-19 win. Pleasant Home has struggled to a 3-17 record the past two seasons and has posted two wins or less in eight of the last ten years.

Brantley has sights set on another title

The Brantley Bulldogs have been the measuring stick for success in the 1A ranks for over a decade and their fans will tell you quickly that the 'road to the state title' runs through their small town. While that could be true again this season, a schedule that includes two home games to open the season and two home games to close the season, with five of the remaining six games on the road, could pose a threat to the 'Dogs dominance.

Brantley has been a football power for over three decades with 32 region titles and 4 state titles to show for their hard work and success.

Coach Roland Jones will be entering his sixth season as the head coach at Brantley and is already the third winningest coach in school history with a 53-11 record.

Following is a preview of this season's football schedule:

Aug. 25 Luverne

The Bulldogs will kick off the season at home with its biggest rival when they meet the Luverne Tigers on the gridiron for the 90th time. Brantley has a 31-55-3 record in the series, but has won the last two meetings, including a 31-7 win a year ago. Luverne is coming off a 6-5 record after posting a total of 50 wins the previous five years.

Sept. 1 Houston County

The Bulldogs will enter the region wars in a week two clash at home against the Houston County Lions. Brantley owns a 6-0 series record against the Lions and last season posted a 33-7 win. Houston County has struggled to post only 11 ins in the last five years, combined.

Sept. 8 at, McKenzie

The Bulldogs will hit the road in week three for a region clash against the McKenzie Tigers. Brantley owns a 39-17-2 edge in the series, has won the last 12 meetings, has averaged over 53 points a game in the last six wins, and last season rolled to an easy 42-6 victory. McKenzie struggled to a 1-8 record last season, its third one-win season in the past five years.

Sept. 15 Elba

The Bulldogs will be back at home in week four for a region showdown against the Elba Tigers. Brantley has a 13-33 all-time record in the series, has won only one of the last four meetings, and last season dropped a 42-35 decision. Ela has rolled to 16 straight winning seasons and over the last two years has a combined record of 21-3.

Sept. 22 at, Kinston

The Bulldogs will hit the road in week five for a region clash against the Kinston Bulldogs. Brantley owns a 33-4 series edge over their region foe, has won the last 25 meetings, in the last three wins has outscored Kinston 142-6, and last year posted a 53-6 victory. Kinston has won 12 games over the last two seasons, including eight wins over region opponents.

Sept. 28 at, Highland Home

The Bulldogs will step away from the region wars in week six when they head up the road to Highland Home to battle the Highland Home Flying Squadron. Brantley has a 55-23 series edge over their county rivals in a series that started back in 1929, but saw its eight-game winning

ZION CHAPEL REBELS

2023 Football Schedule

AUG. 25	PIKE LIB	HOME
SEPT. 1	GOSHEN	AWAY
SEPT. 8	WICKSBURG *	HOME
SEPT. 15	SAMSON *	HOME
SEPT. 22	ARITON *	HOME
SEPT. 29	PL. HOME	AWAY
OCT. 5	G.W. LONG *	AWAY
OCT. 13	GENEVA CO. *	AWAY
OCT. 20	COTTONWOOD *	HOME
OCT. 27	ABBEVILLE *	AWAY

(*Denotes Region Opponent)

Oct. 5 at, G.W. Long

The Rebels will swing back into region play and remain on the road in week seven when they head to Skipperville to battle the G.W. Long Rebels. Zion Chapel has a 10-29 all-time record against Long, has lost the last 14 meetings on the field and last season dropped a 42-7 decision. G.W. Long has rolled up an impressive 35-11 record the last four years after struggling to a 3-15 slate in 2017-2018.

Oct. 13 at, Geneva County

The Rebels will continue their road trip and remain in region action when they travel to Hartford to tangle with the Geneva County Bulldogs. Zion Chapel has an 0-5 record in the brief series, which was renewed in 2020 after a 13-year break, and last season dropped a 34-12 decision. Geneva County has struggled to back-to-back losing seasons after posting eight wins in 2020.

Oct. 20 Cottonwood

The Rebels will finally return home in week nine for a region clash against the Cottonwood Bears. Zion Chapel has an 0-6 series record against the Bears, lost last season 33-0 and in the brief series has given up an average of 42 points per game. Cottonwood posted its last winning season back in 2014, but has begun to rebuild and in the last two years has a combined record of 10-11.

Oct. 27 at, Abbeville

The Rebels will close the books on the regular season with a road trip to Abbeville for a region contest against the Abbeville Yellowjackets. Zion Chapel has a 1-2 record in the short series and last season posted a 22-16 win after being outscored in the first two meetings 84-18. Abbeville has struggled to only five wins in the past two seasons after claiming a total of 30 wins the previous three years.

BRANTLEY BULLDOGS

2023 Football Schedule

AUG. 25	LUVERNE	HOME
SEPT. 1	HOUSTON CO.*	HOME
SEPT. 8	MCKENZIE *	AWAY
SEPT. 15	ELBA *	HOME
SEPT. 22	KINSTON *	AWAY
SEPT. 28	HIGHLAND HOME	AWAY
OCT. 6	GEORGIANA *	AWAY
OCT. 13	OPEN DATE	
OCT. 20	PL. HOME *	AWAY
OCT. 27	RED LEVEL *	HOME
NOV. 3	FLORALA *	HOME

(*Denotes region opponents)

streak snapped last year in a 28-27 loss. Highland Home has won a total of 20 games over the last two years and reached the fourth round of the playoffs in both seasons.

Oct. 6 at, Georgiana

The Bulldogs will be back on the road for a week seven region contest against the Georgiana Panthers. Brantley has a 15-23-2 record in the series against the Panthers, but has won four straight meetings, including a 40-0 win a year ago. Georgiana posted a 7-4 record last season after struggling to a 9-21 record the three previous seasons.

Oct. 13 Open Date

Oct. 20 at, Pleasant Home

The Bulldogs will face their longest road trip of the season in week eight when they travel to Pleasant Home for a region clash with the Pleasant Home Eagles. Brantley boasts a 22-1 series edge over its region foe, has won the last 21 meetings, has averaged 54 points a game the last three seasons, and last season posted a 55-13 win. Pleasant Home has struggled to six straight losing seasons and had managed to win only seven games over the last five years, combined.


Oct. 27 Red Level


The Bulldogs will return home for a region battle with the Red Level Tigers. Brantley has won 19 straight games over the Tigers, owns a 45-14 series advantage, and last season posted a 34-6 win. Red Level hasn't posted a winning record since the 2006 season and over the past seven years has a combined record of 19-49.

Nov. 3 Florala


The Bulldogs will close the door on the regular season when they host the Florala Wildcats in a key region showdown. Brantley owns a 26-3-1 series edge over the 'Cats, has won 25 straight games since a rare loss in 1989, and a year ago rolled to a 53-25 win. Florala has posted three winning seasons in the past four years and during that streak has a combined record of 25-18, including 18 region wins.

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The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

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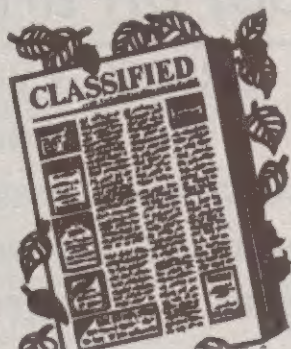
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(Continued from Page ONE)

SHEEP

rector Jennifer Amlong explains. "It was an outreach event. Kids that knew about Marley Acres were made aware of library programs and vice versa."

The impact on the community of Elba is profound. While the farm's followers extend beyond the local area, Whitworth recognizes the lack of familiarity with-in the community.

"There's many people in Elba who have no idea we're here" she explained.

Bradley Chapman, a recent Elba High graduate, eagerly embraced an opportunity recently to help with sheep shearing, guided by Jamie Whitworth. He did a lot of brunt work, such as wrestling the rams and sheep to get them into the perfect shearing position. Chapman describes shearing as "a very exciting opportunity."

With enthusiasm he took the challenge of "tackling the sheep to the ground." He was quick to take initiative in learning the technique. Chapman was marveled by the opportunity to "see what farm life could be like." Ensuring the safety of yourself and the animals is always a top priority on the farm.



Youngsters enjoy petting the animals at Marley Acres

Precisely trimming the wool and making sure the animals were always comfortable helped the process to go smoothly.

As for the future, the Whitworths envision Marley Acres as more than just

a retirement plan.

"It will be part of my daily adventure," Whitworth explained.

In the years to come, Marley Acres will continue to be a beacon of hope for both humans and animals.

LEGAL NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted on the websites:
www.elba-clipper.com and
www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge



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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the construction of **Drainage & Road Improvements, CDBG PROJECT NO. LR-CM-PF-22-010** will be received by the City of Elba, in the meeting room at the City Hall of Elba at 200 Buford Street; Elba, Alabama until 10:00 a.m., Friday, August 11, 2023, and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud.

The work generally consists of approximately the following: resurfacing and miscellaneous drainage improvements along Jones Street, Jackson Street, Thomas Street, Reynolds Street, and Lee Street. The information for Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications, and form of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other Contract Documents may be examined at the City Hall of Elba at 200 Buford Street; Elba, Alabama 36323 and at the office of Southern Engineering Solutions, Inc., 201 East Troy Street, Andalusia, Alabama, 36420.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the City Hall Thursday; August 4, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

To be eligible for consideration, bids must be submitted on complete proposals made available by the Owner. Complete digital project bidding documents are available upon an on-line payment of a non-refundable fee of \$40.00 by visiting our website - www.southernengineeringsolutions.com and clicking the "Currently Bidding" link at the top of the page. A free one-time membership registration with Quest CDN will be required. Please contact questcdn.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com if you require assistance in registration, downloading, or working with this digital project information. Optional complete paper bid documents are available at Southern Engineering Solutions, Inc.; P.O. Box 610; 201 East Troy Street; Andalusia, Alabama 36420, upon payment of a refundable (if plans are returned in reusable condition within 10 days of bid opening) deposit of \$80.00. Bid documents will be mailed only upon receipt of deposit. If paper option is chosen, checks shall be made payable to Southern Engineering Solutions, Inc. No paper bid documents will be distributed later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled opening of bids.

All bids shall be submitted in the Contract Specification book issued by the Engineer. Bids not submitted in the Contract Specification Book will not be opened. All Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope bearing on the outside the name of the Bidder, Bidder's license number, address and name of the project. Envelopes containing bids must be addressed as follows and delivered to the

City Hall of Elba at 200 Buford Street; Elba, Alabama, 36323, "Drainage & Road Improvements, CDBG PROJECT NO.: LR-CM-PF-22-010."

All nonresident contractors preparing bids shall submit with the bid documents evidence of a current Alabama General Contractor's License, evidence (with original seal of the State of Alabama) of proper registration with the Alabama Secretary of State as a foreign corporation, and a Certificate of Good Standing of a Foreign Corporation from the State of Alabama Department of Revenue. Bids submitted by a nonresident contractor without these documents included will be rejected.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities, or to reject any or all bids, and to award the contract to the lowest, responsible, responsive bidder. All bidders must comply with requirements of the Contractor's Licensing law of the State of Alabama and be certified for the type of work on which the proposal is submitted. Each bidder must deposit with his bid, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders. The successful bidder will be required to submit 100% performance and payment bonds.

All bidders must comply with the President's Executive Order Number 11246 which prohibits discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex or national origin. All bidders must comply with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Davis-Bacon Act, the Anti-Kickback Act and the Contract Workhours Act.

Guarantee will be required with each bid for at least 5% of the amount of the bid filed in the form of a certified check, Bid Bond, or irrevocable Letter of Credit acceptable to the owner payable to the City of Elba. Bid Bonds shall include certification that the bonding company is listed in Circular 570 of the U.S. Treasury Department. The name, address, telephone number, and contact person for the bonding company shall also be included.

The attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to condi-

tions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the contract, Section 3, Segregated Facilities, Section 109 and E.O. 11246. This project is financed in part by CDBG Grant No. LR-CM-PF-22-010.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids.

Tom Maddox
Mayor
City of Elba
7/20-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
Elba Division

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF EVA MILLER
Deceased

Case No: PC2023-039

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION for the Estate of Eva Miller has been filed by Bernard Miller and that said petition is hereby set for hearing on the 22nd day of August, 2023 at 9:30 o'clock a.m. Any person having any objection to the issuance of Letters of Administration for said Estate make the same known in writing filed with this Court on or before the day and time of said hearing.

Done this the 12th day of July, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thomson
Probate Judge
7-20,27&8-3 pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JAMES TRAVIS SPURLIN
Deceased

Case No: PC2023-040

NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Summary Distribution has been filed in the Probate Court of Coffee County - Elba Division on the 14th day of July, 2023, for distribution of assets from the Estate of James Travis Spurlin, deceased, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof, and pursuant to law, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the Estate of said decedent.

Witness my hand and seal this the 18th day of July, 2023

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thomson
JUDGE OF PROBATE
7-20,27&8-3 pd

Pastor's Corner

(Continued from Page 4)

Peter's answer is breathtaking: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (vs.16).

If you know anything about Peter, you know that he had much to learn. He would grow and change in some remarkable ways. But his new life with Jesus turned on his faith in him as God's Son and his savior. Nothing more; nothing less.

It still does. It's the same for us today, too.

Toward the end of Peter's life, he wrote the following: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice....Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:3-6a, 8-9).

I believe.

That's why I still think that I'll be just fine.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Coffee County School System trying to identify all persons with disabilities

The Coffee County School System is in the process of identifying all persons with disabilities, ages 3-21 years, who are not enrolled in an educational setting, and all 0-3-year-old children with disabilities. If a parent of a child with disabilities or for those who know of someone who is disabled, contact the principal of the local school or the Special Education Coordinator's office at the Coffee County Board of Education at (334) 897-5016.

It is important that all persons with disabilities be identified so appropriate services can be provided. Additional contact information for the Coffee County School System:

- Tami Crosby, Special Services Coordinator, (334) 897-5016
- Carolyn Broaden, Federal Programs Coordinator, (334) 897-5016
- Megan Driggers, Principal of Kinston School, (334) 565-3016
- Holli Richardson, Principal of New Brockton Elementary School, (334) 894-6152
- Bradley Bowers, Principal of New Brockton Middle School, (334) 894-2350
- Alonzo Barkley, Principal of New Brockton High School, (334) 894-2350
- Jared Robison, Principal of Zion Chapel School, (334) 897-6275



Rural Road Safety Awareness Week underway in Alabama

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) is joining the Alabama Transportation Institute in kicking off National Rural Road Safety Awareness Week (RRSAW), which runs today, July 17, through Friday, July 21. The weeklong observance is part of a nationwide campaign spearheaded by the National Center for Rural Road Safety and drives home the need to slow down as speeding is one of the top contributing factors in rural crashes.

The overall theme and question safety partners are asking motorists to consider during RRS AW 2023 is "What's Speed Got To Do With It?" Throughout the campaign, various topics will be identified to raise awareness and address speed management on rural roads.

ALEA Secretary Hal Taylor said, "Every campaign and initiative that our Agency launches or participates in has tremendous value; however, National Rural Road Safety Awareness Week is structured specifically for states like Alabama. Driving a motor vehicle can be hazardous on any roadway due to varying factors and conditions. While on rural routes, drivers must be especially careful and use extreme caution as it relates to speed management and overall vehicle operation. The key is understanding that every roadway has a specific speed at which motorists can safely travel. When drivers exceed those speed limits, crashes, injuries and fatalities are much more likely to occur."

According to data compiled from 2018 to 2022 by the Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS) in Alabama, rural crashes account for nearly 25 percent of all traffic crashes. In 2022, 4,453 of Alabama's traffic crashes involved speeding on rural roads, resulting in 159 fatalities. So far in 2023, 1,930 crashes have occurred on rural roads in Alabama due to speeding, resulting in 49 fatalities.

Dr. Steven Jones, Interim Executive Director of the Alabama Transportation Institute, said, "The Alabama Transportation Institute endorses the Rural Road Safety Awareness Week starting Monday, July 17. The Institute, through its Center for Advanced Public Safety, is committed to promoting safety on all roads in Alabama and is especially attuned to the unique challenges in rural areas. In addition to our work in Alabama, the Institute is part of the National Center for Rural Road Safety, and we are working with the national organization to promote the reduction of excessive speeding on rural roads across the nation."

Secretary Taylor said, "Tragically, we have lost too many lives on Alabama roadways, but especially on our rural routes. We must take this campaign seriously and help prevent needless crashes on our roadways. In addition to educating the public on the dangers of speeding, we are also using this safety campaign to stress the importance of seat-belt usage, as well as why driving while under the influence of alcohol and drugs is so dangerous."

According to CAPS data, rural DUI crashes account for 41 percent of all DUI crashes recorded, and DUI rural crashes also account for 53 percent of all DUI fatalities in Alabama. In 2022, 1,991 DUI-related crashes occurred on rural roads, resulting in 137 fatalities. So far in 2023, 884 DUI-related crashes have occurred on rural roads, resulting in 50 fatalities.

This week's campaign assets will include social media graphics, post cards, posters, articles, fact sheets, and other resources. For more information on this year's RRS AW, visit the National Center for Rural Road Safety's RRS AW campaign page.

ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

August 2nd, 2023

Kindergarten Jumpstart:
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1st, 2nd, & 3rd grade Orientation:
5:30 p.m. at EES

4th, 5th, & 6th grade Orientation:
6:30 p.m. at EES

PUBLIC RELEASE

Coffee County Schools today announced its policy for free and reduced-price meals for children served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program. Local school officials have adopted the following household size and income criteria for determining eligibility: Children need healthy meals to learn. Coffee County Schools offer healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$1.00, lunch costs \$2.25. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals.** Reduced price is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from Alabama SNAP, the Food Distribution Program, or Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or Alabama TANF are eligible for free meals.
- All children in households receiving benefits from Medicaid are eligible for free or reduced meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children who are directly certified are eligible to receive free meals.
- When known to **Coffee County Schools**, households will be notified of their children's eligibility for free meals based on their participation (or a household member's participation) in the: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR); or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), if the State program meets Federal standards.
- When known to **Coffee County Schools**, households will be notified of any child's eligibility for free meals based on the individual child's designation as Other Source Categorically Eligible, as defined by law. Children are determined Other Source Categorically Eligible if they are: Homeless, Migrant, Runaway, A foster child, or Enrolled in Head Start or an eligible pre-kindergarten program (see: SP 40-2013: Q&As Regarding the Participation of Head Start Programs in Child Nutrition Programs, <https://www.fns.usda.gov/qas-regarding-participation-head-start-programs-child-nutrition-programs-0>).

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES 2023-2024															
HOUSEHOLD SIZE				ELIGIBILITY SCALE FOR FREE MEALS/MILK				HOUSEHOLD SIZE				ELIGIBILITY SCALE FOR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS/MILK			
		PER YEAR		PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	PER WEEK				PER YEAR		PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	PER WEEK	
1	18,954		1,580	729	365		1	26,973		2,248	1,038	519			
2	25,636		2,137	986	493		2	36,482		3,041	1,404	702			
3	32,318		2,694	1,243	622		3	45,991		3,833	1,769	885			
4	39,000		3,250	1,500	750		4	55,500		4,625	2,135	1,068			
5	45,682		3,807	1,757	879		5	65,009		5,418	2,501	1,251			
6	52,364		4,364	2,014	1,007		6	74,518		6,210	2,867	1,434			
7	59,046		4,921	2,271	1,136		7	84,027		7,003	3,232	1,616			
8	65,728		5,478	2,528	1,264		8	93,536		7,795	3,598	1,799			
FOR EACH ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER							FOR EACH ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER								
ADD		+6,682		+557	+257	+129	ADD		+9,509		+793	+366	+183		

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail your child(ren)'s school.

3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to your child(ren)'s school.

4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact your child(ren)'s school immediately.

5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE?

☒ Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit our web site to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact Betsy Wood at (334) 897-5016 if you have any questions about the online application.

☐ No, an online application is not available at this time.

6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year, through **September 18, 2023**. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.

7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.

8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. In accordance with program regulations school officials will be verifying the income of some households at some time during the school year. Selected households will be requested to provide income documentation in order to continue receiving free and reduced-price meals.

9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Kelly Cobb, 400 Reddoch Hill Road, Elba, Alabama 36323, (334) 897-5016, cobbk@coffecounty.k12.al.us**.

11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.

12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.

14. DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE MY SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER? Only the last 4 digits of the social security number of the household's primary wage earner or another adult household member (or an indication of "none") is required.

15. MAY I DECLINE BENEFITS? Yes. Households notified of their children's eligibility must contact **Betsy Wood** or school if they choose to decline the free meal benefits.

16. WHAT IF ALL CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS ARE NOT ON THE NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY LETTER? If children or households receive benefits under Assistance Programs or Other Source Categorically Eligible Programs and are not listed on the notice of eligibility and are not notified by the school of their free meal benefits, the parent or guardian should contact the school or should submit an income application.

17. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.

18. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper and attach it to your application. Contact your child(ren)'s school to receive a second application.

19. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for Alabama SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call Alabama hotline number - 800-382-0499.

If you have other questions or need help, call **(334) 897-5016**.
Sincerely, Betsy Wood

USDA NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity* and sexual orientation*), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete Form AD-3027, *USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form* which can be obtained online at: [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833)256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

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* The enclosed "nondiscrimination" language herein was added pursuant to the May 5, 2022, USDA memorandum. However, although included as currently required for audit compliance by the USDA, the State of Alabama objects to its inclusion, applicability and the application of this language due to currently pending legal challenges in the matter of THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, ET AL. V. USDA, ET AL., Case No. 3:22-cv-00257, and may be subject to change or removal.

LIFESTYLES

Wyrosdick initiated into Omicron Delta Kappa

Lougener Blair Wyrosdick, a native of Elba, Ala., recently was initiated into the Huntingdon College Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society.

Jack Day Car Show set for Saturday, Sept. 16

The 6th annual Jack Day Car Show, in conjunction with the 20th annual Jack Day Community Festival, will be held Saturday, Sept. 16, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The events are sponsored by Altrusa International of Jack, Alabama.

The car show will be located on the practice field for Zion Chapel School. There is a \$25 entry fee. Contact Jerry Senn at (334) 464-0030 or Britley Parker at (334) 300-6974.

ership Honor Society.

The Society welcomed 486 new initiates from 24 universities during May 2023. Students initiated into the society must be sophomores, juniors, seniors, or graduate/professional students in the top 35% of their class, demonstrate leadership experience in at least one of the five pillars, and embrace the ODK ideals.



PILOT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION... Jacquie Hawkins was the delegate for the Luncheon Pilot Club of Enterprise while recently attending the 101st Pilot International Convention and Leadership Conference held in Bellevue, Wash., at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue. Dynamic and engaging speakers inspired Pilots attending to strive to "Do More, Be More and Care More." From the opening ceremony, the business sessions and informative workshops to the President's tea party and installation of International Officers for 2023-2024, it was very informative and enjoyable for the 484 attendees. Attendees included Pilots, Co-Pilots, Anchors and Navigators. The project at the convention this year was for Bellevue LifeSpring where Pilot members filled more than 2,000 bags of hygiene kits to be distributed to 27 schools for students and families in need in the Bellevue area. Entertainment included dueling pianos by "Felix and Fingers", a bingo and movie night and a Walking on Sunshine Pilot International Founder's Fund walk. An 8-day cruise on the Discovery Princess Cruise Lines to Alaska was begun by 134 of the attendees the day after the convention ended.

Local DAV chapter meeting set for Thursday, July 27, in New Brockton

The July 2023 meeting for the DAV Wiregrass Chapter 99, located in New Brockton, Ala., will be held Thursday July 27, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the New Brockton Senior Center.

The Chapter will be holding elections for chapter officers for the upcoming year. All members that can attend, are asked to be present. Also, Chapter 99 maintains a help desk located at the New Brockton Town Hall. Hours of operation are 9 - 11 a.m. on Wednesday of every week. This is a free service to anyone desiring help with a VA claim.

For further information contact Charles Lobdell at 334-718-5707 or Mike Doran at 334-406-6700.

New Hope Sr Center looking for new participants

New Hope Senior Citizens Center is taking applications for new participants. Must be age 60 or older. For more information, contact Conzuella Banks, center manager.

"Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets Monday nights at the Rabbit Hole in Elba, Ala.

The "Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets every Monday night at the Rabbit Hole, 218 Factory Ave., Elba, beginning at 6 p.m. This is a safe, confidential space to talk, network and grow in recovery. For more information, contact Rory Vignola on Facebook.

Mason Burrow receives degree from Georgia Tech

Mason Burrow of Elba, Ala., recently earned a Master of architecture degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Ga.

Burrow was among more than 5,300 undergraduate and graduate students to be presented Georgia Tech degrees during the Institute's 264th Commencement exercises in May.

Military Support Group Meetings in Enterprise:

Enterprise Military Support Group meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Anyone who needs to talk about difficult experiences and needs an understanding friend is invited. Meetings at Church on Boll Weevil Circle, 2017 Boll Weevil Circle, Enterprise, Ala.

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